

Demetrio Pérez, Jr., M.S., Member

**SUBJECT: INDIVIDUAL MEMBER'S POSITION STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR
JEB BUSH'S EDUCATION PLAN**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, has been at the forefront on issues involving education and other matters of public concern. It has had a tradition of taking positions on public issues. Most important, however, the School Board has always encouraged discussion on both sides of any given issue.

Notwithstanding the approval by the School Board of Miami-Dade County, at its February 10, 1999 meeting, of Resolution No. 99-08 in opposition to private school vouchers, scholarship programs for students attending failing schools, and tuition tax breaks, the Board, in the spirit of encouraging the expression of other views, acknowledges that individual School Board members may want to expose their own personal position that would:

- Support Governor Bush's position on vouchers, as stated in his Inaugural Address of January 5, 1999 and his State of the State Message at the opening of the 1999 Legislative Session; and
- Support the Governor's "A+" proposals, such as accountability; rewarding successful schools; correcting failure; improving failing schools; improving school safety and discipline; and scholarship programs for students attending failing schools.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DEMETRIO PÉREZ, JR., M.S.:**

Respecting the limitations that are exposed by the Sunshine Law, I, the sponsor of this position statement, invite my colleagues to share this criteria and subscribe this document to be sent to the Governor and the State Legislature.

DP:omc

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD INDIVIDUAL MEMBER'S POSITION STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR JEB BUSH'S EDUCATION PLAN

Following Governor Jeb Bush's address declaring education as one of his primary issues at the opening of the 1999 Legislative Session, the undersigned Miami-Dade County School Board Members would like to support and assist the Governor, his administration, and the State Legislature, by affirming our support for improving education in accordance with the Governor's proposals. Furthermore, we want our position known in an effort to guide the community during the discussion of this issue.

Additionally, the undersigned Miami-Dade County Public School Board Members, would like to address the following issues related to this matter:

- First, we applaud Governor Jeb Bush's stated initiative in "transforming Florida's public schools into a center of excellence" as the most important mission of his administration, as outlined in his Inaugural Address of January 5, 1999;
- Second, we support several key issues included in the Governor Bush and Lieutenant Governor Brogan's education plan designed to improve our schools, such as accountability; rewarding successful schools; correcting failure; improving failing schools; improving school safety and discipline; scholarship programs for students attending failing schools; and
- Third, although the majority of the Miami-Dade School Board Members approved a resolution opposing the scholarship program for students attending failing schools at its February 10, 1999 meeting, we hereby individually reaffirm our personal position, interpreting and expressing the beliefs of our constituents, that we do not agree with the adopted resolution and reaffirm our position in support of the Governor's plan.

Demetrio Pérez, Jr., M.S., Member - Sponsor
